

School Annual Education Report (AER) Cover Letter
DUNES Alternative High School

February 9, 2024

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2022-23 educational progress for Dunes Alternative High School. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, accountability, and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact Michelle Woods, woodsm@westottawa.net, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following website, [Dunes Alternative School Annual Education Report](#), or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school.

For the 2023-24 school year, schools were identified based on previous years' performance using definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that had at least one underperforming student subgroup in 2022-23. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that had a student subgroup performing at the same level as the lowest 5% of all schools in the state in 2021-22. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance was in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state or had a graduation rate at or below 67% in 2021-22. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given.

Our school was not identified for improvement and has not been given one of these labels.

Each year, our school provides approximately 60 students the opportunity to graduate on time and become college, career and life ready. The Dunes Alternative High School continues to focus on providing every opportunity as possible to give the students the appropriate classes to recover credits in a small, flexible learning environment

During our first four years 90% our students graduated early or on time. The move from a traditional classroom setting to an entire online Odysseyware or Michigan Virtual blended instruction model has proven to be successful and has assisted in improved MME results and graduation rates

State law requires that we also report additional information. The attached report will provide you with the following additional information about our school and our achievements:

Please refer to the District Michigan Continuous Improvement Plan.

About Our School

The Dunes Alternative School is an alternative school setting serving students in 11th – 12th grade. The Dunes is recognized as an opportunity for an alternative education option. The school audits the students' transcripts and provides the appropriate classes to meet the Michigan Merit Curriculum credits of 18. The Dunes is unique in the sense of scheduling flexibility to meet each student's needs.

The Dunes Alternative was designed to assist fourth year in-building students to still graduate on time when credit deficient by flexible scheduling and providing more class opportunity within quarterly periods. Allowing 16 or more classes within a year compared to 12 in the traditional school setting.

Curriculum

A copy of the core curriculum is available on the district website at www.westottawa.net by selecting Curriculum within the Academic drop down menu. Core curriculum documents can also be located at www.michigan.gov/HSCE. At the present time, ELA, Mathematics, and Science are implementing the Michigan State Standards. Odysseyware courses are aligned to the standards and manipulated by WOHS teachers to match course outcomes.

In addition to our regular hours of operation our Dunes Students have time both before and after school for assistance and time to complete classes over and beyond the regular school day.

Achievement Data

In the 2022-23 school year, Dunes Alternative School had 63 students earn completion status and earn a Michigan High School Diploma.

IDENTIFY THE NUMBER AND PERCENT OF STUDENTS REPRESENTED BY PARENTS AT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher conferences in The Dunes are student-led and student-scheduled. Attendance at Parent teacher conferences in 2022-23 was 90%.

This data coincides with the adoption of Infinite Campus which has given parents more access to student grades and attendance on a daily basis. The administration meets with each family prior to entering the program and we have student led conferences in the fall and spring. Prior to graduation, we also have a counselor meet with each family for a transcript audit to approve graduation completion. Every four weeks a Dunes progress report is sent home to each family to show student success on each course assigned. Each student has targets and goals shown and a bar graph showing where each student is along the process to the ultimate goal of graduating on time.

College-Prep Opportunities

Dunes Alternative High School has local community colleges visit the classroom to discuss

college entrance. Also, our students visit a college campus to become familiar with college student life. We have a college advisor that meets with each student to fill out the FAFSA form and college applications. Dunes students also write a resume and are connected with local employment opportunities.

Additional Points of Pride About Our School

Students become ingrained in the power of success and accomplishment in school. Focus on the future, setting attainable goals and understanding each individual's talents that can be shared in our community. Dunes staff work hard to ensure that Dunes graduates are attending a community college, have joined the military, or are employed full time upon graduation. Transition planning for life after high school is an area of focus and continuous improvement.

The Dunes employs two, part-time, highly qualified teachers (math and ELA) and one full time lab technician. A part time guidance counselor is also available to assist students with academic and career counseling as well as personal, social-emotional support.

In closing, the staff at Dunes Alternative High School is committed to the academic, social, and success beyond school for each of our students. We strive to prepare all of our students to be "College, Career and Life Ready!" Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Michelle Woods, Director - Dunes Alternative High School

Kristine Jernigan, Principal - West Ottawa High School